

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 L-03 /052 W

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R 051210Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2187

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 0406

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, ETRD, EEC, DA

SUBJECT: EEC MEASURE AFFECTING U.S. ORIGIN INSTRUMENTS AND
APPARATURS FOR SCIENTIFIC/EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

REF: BRUSSELS 00425

1. WITH REFERENCE TO PARA 7 OF REFTTEL, DENMARK HAS ENFORCED
THE EC REGULATION NO. 1798/75 EFFECTIVE FROM JANUARY 1, 1976.
THE NEW REGULATION IS EXPECTED TO HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON
U.S. IMPORTS INTO DENMARK OF INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUS FOR
SCIENTIFIC/EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.

2. FORMERLY, THE DANISH CUSTOMS ACT PERMITTED SUCH
EQUIPMENT TO BE IMPORTED DUTY FREE PROVIDED THAT
EQUIPMENT OF EQUIVALENT SCIENTIFIC VALUE WAS NOT
PRODUCED IN DENMARK.

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3. THE EMBASSY CONTACTED TWO MAJOR IMPORTERS OF THIS TYPE EQUIPMENT TO ASCERTAIN THE POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF THE NEW REGULATION. THE FIRMS QUERIED WERE NOT AWARE OF THE NEW REGULATION, BUT LATER CONTACTS WITH DANISH CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES REVEALED THAT THE REGULATION WAS ACTUALLY IN FORCE AND FIRMS WOULD HAVE TO COMPLY.

4. TRADE SOURCES ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT 30 PERCENT OF IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. OF SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE NEW REGULATION. IN 1974 TOTAL IMPORTS OF SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT FROM ALL COUNTRIES EXCEEDED \$30 MILLION OF WHICH APPROXIMATELY \$8 WAS FROM THE U.S. ABOUT \$2.4 MILLION OF THE U.S. TOTAL WAS IMPORTED DUTY FREE.

5. TRADE SOURCES EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF THE NEW REGULATION WHICH IN MANY INSTANCES WILL PLACE U.S. EQUIPMENT IN AN UNCOMPETITIVE POSITION IF IT FAILS TO MEET THE EEC DUTY FREE CRITERIA. DANISH CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES WILL PLACE THE BURDEN OF FINANCIAL LIABILITY UPON IMPORTERS REQUIRING PAYMENT OF DUTY IF IT IS DETERMINED AT A LATER DATE THAT IMPORTED EQUIPMENT DOES NOT MEET THE DUTY FREE CRITERIA.
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Message Attributes

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